



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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Dear AZNG Member:

As we celebrate our nation's independence this 4th of July, I would like to take a moment and thank each of you for your ongoing contribution to our freedom and liberty. Your service to our great nation extends well beyond the Arizona borders, while at the same time is understood throughout even the smallest Arizona communities.

Over the past several years, the Arizona Air and Army National Guard have exemplified the true meaning of the word "citizen-soldier." The operations in which you have participated include the Global War on Terrorism, Southwest Border Mission, State Emergencies, Annual Training Requirements and much more. Many of you answer the "call to duty" while at the same time maintaining civilian employment and fulfilling requirements to your employer. Many in the general public do not fully understand the focused commitment it takes to maintain full readiness as a member of the military, typically completed on a part-time schedule. I congratulate each of you for your part in ensuring that the Arizona Army and Air National Guard remain fully ready in support of our state citizenry.

I also wish to include a heartfelt word of appreciation to your family and support structures, who also serve in many ways not normally seen and appreciated. Each successful mission you complete would not be possible without the many sacrifices your loved ones make so that you can remain focused on your task. Special events in lives are missed, and can only be partially filled with the knowledge that as a community, we serve together. Please share with your loved ones my sincere appreciation and understanding for their continued service to our nation.

On behalf of the citizens of Arizona, we recognize, honor and show our appreciation to you and all the members of the Arizona Army and Air National Guard, past and present, for service to our great nation.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Napolitano".
Janet Napolitano
Governor

JN/AMC:jm